

Merrill D. Rix, 87

Merrill Rix, 87, of Groton, died Sunday, Aug. 27, 2000 at Avera St. Luke's Hospital, Aberdeen. His funeral will be at 10 a.m. Wednesday, Aug. 30, 2000 at the United Methodist Church, Groton, with the Rev. Richard Collman officiating.

Burial will be in the Union Cemetery, Groton, with Paetznick-Garness Funeral Chapel, Groton, in charge of arrangements.

A prayer service was held Tuesday evening at the funeral chapel.

Merrill D. Rix was born August 17, 1913 to Foster and Sarah (Davison)

Rix in Groton. He attended Groton Public School and in 1932 he graduated from Groton High School. Following high school he attended SDSU in Brookings. He then moved to California where he owned and operated a grocery store. After serving in the military he moved back to Groton where he farmed.

He married Clara Ruden, July 12, 1950 in Aberdeen. They lived on a farm until 1972 when they moved into Groton. Merrill retired from farming in 1977, but remained active in business development in the Groton and Aberdeen area until his death.

Being very active in the community, Merrill was involved in the following organizations: two terms as a Brown County Commissioner, Advisory Council at the Aberdeen Living Center, a director on the Northern Electric Board for six years, Co-owner of the White House Inn Motel in Aberdeen, member of the Groton American Legion Post #39, Mason, the Groton Kiwanis Club where he served as President for two years, several positions on the board of the United Methodist Church in Groton.

His hobbies include spectator sports, auto racing, and he loved farming and spending his winters in Arizona.

Merrill is survived by his wife, Groton; three daughter, Valerie (Larry) Fliehs, Groton, Candace (Bob) Lee, Shelby, Mich., Barbara (Jack) Schmidt, Aberdeen; one sister, Betty (Dan) Nay, Fresno, Calif., and seven grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents.

Honorary casketbearers will be "Darrel's Coffee Group."

Casketbearers will be Lance Fliehs, Jeff Fliehs, Mike Imrie, Cliff Pray, Berle Myers, and Brad Ruden.

Organist will be Marilyn Gibbs, duet and soloist will be Carina Pray and Bill Duncan.

